

## C L A I M S

1. A camera apparatus comprising:

an image pickup device (2) which acquires an object image and outputs an image signal;

5 a recording unit (13) which records the image signal output from the image pickup device;

a first detector (3) which detects a transmitting position of an optical signal in the object image based on the image signal output from the image pickup device; and  
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a controller (3) which executes a control operation in response to the transmitting position detected by the first detector.

2. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
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a specifying unit (3) which specifies an arbitrary area of the object image based on changes in the transmitting position detected by the first detector, and

20 wherein the controller executes a control operation with respect to the area specified by the specifying unit.

3. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

25 a recognition unit (3) which recognizes a moving pattern of a transmitting source of the optical signal based on changes in the transmitting position detected

by the first detector, and

wherein the controller executes a control operation based on the moving pattern recognized by the recognition unit.

5           4. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller executes an operation for setting a focus detection range.

          5. A camera apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller executes an operation for  
10       setting a focus detection range.

          6. A camera apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the controller executes an operation for setting a focus detection range.

          7. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller executes an operation for  
15       setting an exposure detection range.

          8. A camera apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller executes an operation for setting an exposure detection range.

20           9. A camera apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the controller executes an operation for setting an exposure detection range.

          10. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller executes an operation for  
25       setting a color evaluation range.

          11. A camera apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller executes an operation for

setting a color evaluation range.

12. A camera apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the controller executes an operation for setting a color evaluation range.

5        13. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

          a second detector (3) which detects specific code data transmitted by means of the optical signal based on the image signal output from the image pickup  
10        device, and

          wherein the controller executes the control operation based on the specific code data detected by the second detector.

15        14. A camera apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

          a second detector (3) which discriminates one of plural specific code data transmitted by means of the optical signal based on the image signal output from the image pickup device, and

20        wherein the controller executes the control operation based on the specific code data discriminated by the second detector.

15. A camera apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

25        a second detector (3) which discriminates one of plural specific code data transmitted by means of the optical signal based on the image signal output from

the image pickup device, and

wherein the controller executes the control operation based on the specific code data discriminated by the second detector.

5        16. A camera control method comprising:

acquiring an object image to output an image signal;

recording the image signal;

10        detecting a transmitting position of an optical signal in the object image based on the image signal; and

executing a control operation in response to the detected transmitting position.

15        17. A camera control method according to claim 16, further comprising:

specifying an arbitrary area of the object image based on changes in the detected transmitting position, and

20        wherein the control operation comprises a control operation with respect to the specified area.

18. A camera control method according to claim 16, further comprising:

25        recognizing a moving pattern of a transmitting source of the optical signal based on changes in the detected transmitting position, and

wherein the control operation comprises a control operation based on the recognized moving pattern.

19. An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein, the computer readable program code means comprising:

5 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to acquire an object image to output an image signal;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to record the image signal;

10 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to detect a transmitting position of an optical signal in the object image based on the image signal; and

15 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to execute a control operation in response to the detected transmitting position.